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GREAT NEWS FROM Derbyſhire:

Being a Full and True RELATION OF THE DISCOVERY OF

Above Thirty Prieſts, Living and Reſiding in and about *Halam*, in the ſaid County.

TOGETHER

With an account of the taking of one *Busby* a Prieſt, and two Women, notorious Papiſts, by Juſtice *Gilbert*, a worthy and active Proſecutor of Prieſts and Jeſuits; and how they had contrived to Charge Mr. *Gilbert* with Felony, which by the Confeſſion of *Dudley*, one of their own Party, by the Providence of God, was fully detected and diſcovered, and they committed to the County-Gaol, where they now remain.

Written in a Letter from a worthy Divine in that County, to a Friend in *London*.

SIR,

I Cannot but acknowledg my neglect, by ſo long a ſilence, ſince I received your laſt; but yet I doubt not of a pardon from ſo candid and ingenuous a Nature; when I ſhall acquaint you, that partly Buſineſs, and partly want of ſomething new, wherewith to divert you, from theſe parts, did occaſion it. But having now an opportunity in ſome meaſure to make you Reparation, I reſolved not to let ſlip a Relation, which, at preſent, is the Subject of our whole Diſcourſe in theſe parts, and which is this.

There was, the laſt Week, a Meeting of the Juſtices of the Peace hereabouts, to conſider of an Information which was exhibited before them, againſt one *Busby* a Romiſh Prieſt, who they underſtood was entertained and harboured at the Houſe of one Mr. *Pouthrel*, of *Halam*, in this County, a notorious and obſtinate Papiſt; after whom Mr. *Gilbert* (a Juſtice of the Peace,

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Peace, a worthy good Proteſtant, and zealouſly active againſt thoſe of the Church of *Rome*) had ſeveral times ſearched at the ſaid Mr. *Pouthrel*'s houſe, but to no effect; till at length (whether by ſome private Intelligence, or mere accident, I know not) he diſcovered him hid between the Cieling and the Tyles of the Houſe in a Garret, Mr. *Pouthrel* himſelf being at that inſtant abſent from home; nor indeed had he been there for ſome conſiderable time paſt, leaving only a Houſekeeper, who in the nature of a Steward, managed his Eſtate; with an under Bayliff named *Dudley*, and two Women, who were all noted Papiſts: eſpecially one of the Females, who is, or at leaſt pretends to be, miſſioned from his Un-holineſs.

A few days after *Busby* was taken, *Dudley*, and the two Women, were alſo Apprehended, and brought before Juſtice *Gilbert*; who laying open the Law to *Dudley*, told him, that he was not only liable to be impriſoned, but to be Indicted alſo; and that the matter of Fact being ſo evident, he had certainly forfeited his Life by entertaining and harbouring the ſaid Prieſt, which was death by the Statute. This wrought ſo effectually upon *Dudley*, who had not as yet entertained any thoughts of being Sainted, that he freely confeſſed to the Juſtice, That his Maſter *Pouthrel* did, after an extraordinary manner, receive and protect the Prieſts of *Rome*; telling him that at one time, and in one and the ſame place, there met together no leſs than thirty of them, the greateſt part of whom he knew, as having ſeen them at ſeveral times at his Maſters houſe: Moreover, affirming that one of the women who were taken with him, was in ſome kind of Orders, the nature whereof he could not tell, neither what ſhe was; only he had obſerved her to Baptize Children. Mr. *Gilbert* then further encouraged him by all the mild and plauſible perſwaſions imaginable, aſſuring him of all the favour and friendſhip that could be expected from ſo ingenuous a Confeſſion. And now Sir, do but obſerve the damnable and wicked contrivance of this accurſed Crew: For *Dudley* gathering more aſſurance from the mild behaviour and hearty promiſes of the Juſtice, proceeds to declare: That they had conſpired amongſt themſelves, to Accuſe Mr. *Gilbert*, the Juſtice of the Peace, that when he ſearched the Houſe, he had taken from thence a Bag of Eighty Pounds in money, and that he carried it away with him; threatning withal to Indict him upon a Robbery for the ſame. But it appearing that there was no ſuch money loſt, altho' they did impudently charge it upon this worthy and active Gentleman; Mr. *Dudley*, as a recompence for this great diſcovery, was diſcharged and ſet at liberty, the reſt were ſent to the County-Gaol, where they remain to be Tryed at the next Aſſizes. Thus Sir, I have given you a true and impartial Relation, and which I hope, hath in ſome meaſure diſcharged that Obligation incumbent upon me: I ſhall now leave you to make your own Remarks upon the proceedings of this ſort of people, who notwithſtanding all the dangers and difficulties they meet with from the Conſtitution of our Laws and Government, ſhall yet be be ſo audacious, as even in the heart of the Kingdom to affront them both, which makes me apt to believe there is ſome greater encouragement in the bottom of their deſign, than as yet the world is either capable of knowing, or willing to be undeceived in.

SIR,

I am yours in all Hearty Affection.

From *Hadon* in *Derbyſhire*, *June* 4*th*. 1681.

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